

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 01602 211047Z

10

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 DHA-02 OC-05 CCO-00

OPR-02 OMB-01 PER-01 SY-05 A-01 SCA-01 /086 W

----- 067960

O 211029Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8680

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 1602

DELIVER TO NEA/ARN/DRAPER AT OPENING OF BUSINESS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, LE

SUBJECT: 0900 LEBANON REPORT

1. MUFTI OF THE REPUBLIC MADE FORMAL STATEMENT
FOLLOWING SERIES OF CONFERENCES WITH MUSLIM LEADERS
IN WHICH HE SUPPORTS NATIONAL RECONCILIATION UNDER THE
"CONSTITUTIONAL DOCUMENT" ANNOUNCED BY FRANGIE IN HIS
BAABDA DECLARATION. HE CALLED THIS DOCUMENT A PRO-
VISIONAL ONE LISTING PRINCIPLES OF RECONCILIATION
WHICH SHOULD LEAD TO REFORM THAT TWILL BE WORKED OUT
THROUGH THE PROCESS OF NATIONAL DIALOGUE. HE SUGGESTED
THAT THE LEBANESE CONSTITUTION AND TRADITIONS COULD BE
CHANGED THROUGH A GRADUAL PROCESS, AND REITERATED
LEBANON'S PLACE AS AN ARAB NATION ALONGSIDE BROTHER
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PAGE 02 BEIRUT 01602 211047Z

ARAB NATIONS. THIS STATEMENT SHOULD HELP PROCESS OF

CONSENSUS HERE BEHIND SYRIAN INITIATIVE.

2. MEANWHILE, JUMBLATT, SALAM AND EDDE CONTINUE VERBAL ATTACKS ON PRESENT GOVERNMENT, ON FRANGIE, AND ON THE AGREEMENT. IT SEEMS CLEAR THEY ARE NOT GOING TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY ENLARGED GOVERNMENT IN NEAR FUTURE. WHATEVER THE "ALLIANCE" OF EDDE AND SALAM WITH KARAME MIGHT HAVE MEANT IN THE PAST, IT SEEMS TO BE UNDERGOING STRAINS AS THESE TWO MAKE THEIR PEACE WITH JUMBLATT, IN HIS ROLE AS CHIEF LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION.

3. NO KIDNAPPINGS WERE REPORTED YESTERDAY, THE FIRST DAY IN OVER A WEEK. THERE WERE ISOLATED SHOOTING INCIDENTS AND SEVERAL DEAD, HOWEVER, BOTH IN BEIRUT AND TRIPOLI. VENDOMRE HOTEL, OWNED BY SAME PEOPLE THAT OWNED GUTTED PHOENICIA, HAS BECOME FIRST MAJOR HOTEL IN CENTRAL HOTEL DISTRICT NEAR EMBASSY TO REOPEN ITS DOORS FOR BUSINESS.
LAMBRAKIS

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NNN

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